

**HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
March 28, 2014**

Richard Reniere, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Mr. Reniere asked for a moment of silence honoring residents of the District who passed away during the past year and also for Boston firefighters, Michael Kennedy and Ed Walsh.

Mr. Reniere introduced those at the head table:

Chuck Rage, Commissioner
Maureen Buckley, Commissioner
Robert Ladd, Commissioner
Stephan LaBranche, Treasurer
Sharon Somers, District Counsel

Mr. Reniere recognized the following in the audience:

Nancy Stiles, State Senator
Mary-Louise Woolsey, Selectman
Rick Griffin, Selectman
Michael Pierce, former Selectman
Michael Plouffe, former Selectman

Mr. Reniere explained the rules of the meeting and asked for a motion to allow non-residents of the District to address this assembly.

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley to allow non-residents of the Village District to speak upon recommendation by the Moderator provided their remarks pertain to the Warrant Articles.

Vote: Motion passed by majority vote.

Mr. Reniere said the results of the vote pursuant to Article I would be announced when the votes were tallied.

Article II

To see if the District will vote to accept the budget as submitted by the Budget Committee, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$535,336 for District purposes.

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve Article II.

Vote: Motion passed by majority vote.

Article III

To see if the District will vote to discontinue the Hampton Beach Village District Playground Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established in 1996 and to raise and appropriate Four Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Seven Dollars and Ninety Five Cents (\$4,857.95) from unassigned fund balance following the discontinuance of the capital reserve fund for the purchase and/or repair and maintenance of playground equipment.

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve Article III.

Commissioner Rage said this money has been sitting for many years and makes very little. This will offset taxes and more work can be done on the playground.

Skip Windemiller, 365 Ocean Blvd., asked what the purpose was of getting rid of the entire fund. It could still be used to accept donations, etc. and a separate warrant article would be needed to open the fund again.

Commissioner Rage said, upon advice from counsel, that leaving any money in the fund would change Article III which says the account is being closed. The Article cannot be changed and must be put to a vote.

Mr. Reniere asked for a vote on Article III.

Vote: 14 yes, 9 no. Motion passed.

Article IV

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars for improvements to the parking lot adjacent to the new fire station, including a shelter for parking lot attendants, electrical service, signage and lighting and to authorize the withdrawal of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars from Hampton Beach Village District Capital Projects Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose.

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve Article IV.

Commissioner Rage said that this also is a fund which is not making money. Passage of this Article will help to keep taxes level.

Brian Lapham, 27 High Street, asked if there would be a restroom available. Commissioner Rage said the restroom in the fire station would be available.

Vote: Motion passed by majority vote.

Article V

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Mr. Windemiller said he would like to submit an amendment to reduce the budget by \$10,000 because it is in the warrant article and also in the budget.

Amendment made by Mr. Windemiller, seconded by Brian Lapham, to reduce the bottom line of the operating budget by \$10,000 bringing the total to \$525,336.

Mr. LaBranche said he would be concerned about doing this. The accountant and the State of NH (DRA) have already received these numbers on the MS37. Mr. LaBranche said he gave them an explanation of what was being done with the parking lot. When you see a line under Culture & Recreation that says \$10,500 under Parking Lot, it does not mean \$10,500 plus another \$10,000 is being spent. This goes to that line as a credit. The money under Article III is also applied as a credit. By taking this \$10,000 out of the bottom line you will need to take it out of another line item. Mr. LaBranche said he did not feel this was a correct procedure.

Commissioner Rage said he promised that they will not spend \$20,000 on the parking lot.

Mr. LaBranche said the increase over last year's budget is for parking attendants and the lot itself. The rest of the budget did not increase at all. Many costs were brought down.

Vote: 15 yes, 15 no. Amendment failed.

Attorney Somers said pursuant to the residents' vote they have approved the operating budget of \$535,336 plus the two warrant articles for a total of \$550,193.95. Attorney Somers said the District should be very careful about reducing the operating budget because that will prohibit spending more than \$525,336 from that budget. Attorney Somers said her recommendation would be to stay with the operating budget and warrant articles as stated.

Helena Barthell, 3 Dover Avenue, asked if an additional \$10,000 would be spent. Attorney Somers said the \$535,000 would come from general taxation. The two warrant articles are going to come from capital reserve funds, not taxation.

Mr. Reniere said the operating budget amount of \$535,336 stands.

Moved by Mr. Lapham to have reconsideration for Article IV. There was no second.
Motion failed.

Mr. Reniere asked if any non-residents wished to speak.

Michael Pierce, 16 Hedman Avenue, said the way matters stand, \$20,000 will be available to spend on the parking lot.

Article I

Mr. Reniere then announced the results of the election as follows:

Commissioner (3 years)	Maureen Buckley
Treasurer (1 year)	Steve LaBranche
Moderator (1 year)	Richard Reniere
Clerk (1 year)	Janet Allard
Supervisor of the Checklist (3 years)	Eileen Daboul

Commissioner Ladd said he had a community service announcement. The Police Chief, Fire Chief and Director of the DPW have been invited to the regular meeting of the HBVD on May 14th to discuss the evacuation plan for the town. Commissioner Ladd invited everyone to attend.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary